The Bullet

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All Spiced Up



See Features, p. 7 for tonight's dinner idea!

Jogging Student Avoids Gunman

By ANNE ELDER
Staff Writer

On Monday, Aug. 30, a UMW student was jogging downtown when she was approached by an armed male cyclist, according to a campus crime alert sent out Tuesday afternoon.

The 20-year-old student left the scene unharmed and the Fredericksburg police are actively investigating the incident, according to Fredericksburg Police Department Public Information Officer Natatia Bledsoe.

"We have assigned this case to a detective," Bledsoe said. "We are aggressively pursuing any information we receive."

According to the crime alert, the jogger noticed a bicyclist following her while she was near William and Sophia streets. When she reached the intersection of Sophia and Charlotte streets, the male approached her asking if she knew where Bragg Hill is located.

After replying "no," she directed him to a nearby coffee shop for directions. He proceeded to reach into the black drawstring bag he was carrying and pulled out a handgun, according to the alert.

The jogger ran up Charlotte Street yelling, "He has a gun," which caught the attention of several males who were standing near the Fredericksburg Visitor's Center on Caroline Street. The males proceeded to chase the suspect, who was last seen riding toward the Chatham Bridge, according to the alert.



Anne Elder/ Bullet

A police car is parked outside the Fredericksburg Visitor's Center on Caroline Street. A UMW student was jogging in the area when an armed bicyclist approached her.

The alert informed students that the police searched the area, but were unable to find the suspect or the "Good Samaritans" who chased him away.

"We're hoping they'll come forward," Bledsoe said of the Samaritans. "Any details are really helpful."

In light of the incident, Bledsoe encourages students to be aware of their surroundings, and not to use iPods or other music players to the extent that hearing is restricted.

Bledsoe also said that the police department doesn't recommend carrying defense tools such as mace, but instead recommends wearing a whistle, which can alert bystanders and scare the potential attacker away.

Despite the crime, Bledsoe said that generally speaking, Fredericksburg is a secure area.

"I think Mary Washington and the surrounding communities are very safe," Bledsoe said.

She said the majority of crimes that occur in Fredericksburg happen between people who know each other and crime between strangers "just doesn't happen that often."

Tuition Increased By up to 9 Percent

By OLIVIA SNIDER
Staff Writer

Though the tuition increase for this year is higher than it has been for Mary Washington in the past, it is still lower than at many other universities in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

"The overall driver for the university is affordability," said Dan Steen, the new rector for the Board of Visitors.

As the new rector, Steen will work with both the BOV and the administration on upcoming changes for the campus. Steen emphasized the university's new master plan, brought forth in a presentation earlier this year by President Hurley and his staff.

This plan encompasses three major points, according to Steen. The first is overseeing a successful transition to the new three-college system.

The second facet of the master plan is construction, specifically geared toward improving residence halls, Steen said. The third is advancement of the university, communication and external affairs.

Steen said this includes "creating a buzz about Mary Washington."

The establishment of the new colleges and the construction projects on campus have created significant costs

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Flaws in Eagle Landing Cause Mixed Emotions



Anne Elder/ Bullet

Students sit outside Eagle Landing during an evacuation. Every time the fire alarm goes off, all students are forced to evacuate.

By ANNE ELDER
Staff Writer

Eagle Landing, the $60.5 million new apartment building, has gotten off to a rough start.

Now that all the students have moved in, residents are beginning to find many problems that went unnoticed during construction.

Chris Porter, director of residence life, describes this as fairly normal for new buildings.

"Any time you move into a new complex, there is a 'shake down' period where maintenance issues are discovered that were not found during building testing," Porter said.

According to Porter, the biggest complaints she has received from students have been the temperature of the shower water not being hot enough and the "far too sensitive" fire alarm system.

Since the building opened, the fire alarm has gone off eight times, with the most recent yesterday at 3:15 p.m. Each time the fire alarm goes off, all residents within the

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UMW Shines in National Reports

By HANNAH MILLER
Staff Writer

This year, UMW was placed on *Parade* magazine's "College A-list" in the best small state schools category.

Other publications have given UMW high rankings recently as well. *U.S. News and World Report* ranked UMW fifth among public southern institutions in its "universities-masters" category.

In their public masters universities category, *Washington Monthly Magazine* ranked UMW first in the Mid-Atlantic region and third in the nation. They ranked UMW 19th along with private universities that offer masters programs.

Forbes.com, an online news magazine, also named UMW on its America's Best Buys list.

"These rankings make me feel so proud that I go to a school that is so highly thought of," sophomore Margaret Walker said.

George Farrar, associate vice president for communications, said that UMW does exceedingly well in both regional and national rankings.

"It shows the dedication of faculty and staff in providing a world-class learning environment," Farrar said.

Robert Barr, associate professor of political science and international affairs, thinks the attention that accompanies these rankings will be beneficial for UMW.

"It's nice and wonderful to receive that recognition," Barr said.

As UMW continues to be highly ranked by numerous publications, faculty and staff are excited about the increased exposure.

"Name recognition isn't as strong as it should be," Barr said about the current situation. "Rankings like these will boost our name recognition."

Sophomore Nate Wine said the rankings are great for the university.

"They will give the university more publicity," Wine said.

Farrar said these rankings will also provide good visibility across the country.

According to Farrar, the school plans to use these recent rankings in attracting potential students.

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Hurley Ushers in Redesigned Master Plan

By HEATHER BRADY
Staff Writer

In an interview yesterday with the *Bullet*, President Rick Hurley indicated that during the presidential turmoil last spring, he felt the time was finally right for him to apply for the job. As president, he said, he is now focused on improving faculty salaries and Mary Washington's name recognition, along with creating a new Master Plan and setting a limit on increased student enrollment.

"When the university was searching for Dr. Hample, that's when I knew that I did not want to apply," Hurley said.

He said it would have been too risky to apply for the position during his time as acting president. If he had applied and been rejected, he said, he would have felt that he needed to leave the university.

But the events pertaining to former President Hample's resignation unfolded after he had announced his pending retirement. Since everyone knew he was leaving, he already had a backup plan, so there was less risk involved.

"When she announced her resignation and they asked me to be acting [president], I immediately began to think, to wonder if I wanted to do this, should I do this, should I apply," he said. "The answer was yes. If I didn't get the job, I could go ahead and retire."

Although he said in his August address to UMW faculty and staff that he didn't feel ready to lead during his first run as acting president, he feels more than ready now, after a year of previous experience.

"I just felt like I was an experienced president," Hurley said.

Hurley is officially recommending an undergraduate enrollment cap of 4,500 students to the Board of Visitors. Undergraduate enrollment is currently about 4,300 students.

Name recognition is also a key issue on Hurley's mind now that he is in office. He said the more that UMW's name is seen and heard, the more likely it is that people will ask about the university, thus increasing its familiarity.

"It's less a reputational thing, which to me has a quality kind of definition to it, so I've very deliberately been saying increased knowledge of our existence," he said. "If people do research on us, the reputation part will take care of itself."

Hurley hopes to increase the university's presence in the surrounding area by encouraging faculty and staff to get involved in places nearby, like in Quantico, where Hurley hopes to create a campus similar to the Dahlgren one.

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Miles Dumville/ Bullet

President Rick Hurley



BEAT

By ANNE ELDER
Staff Writer

June 11- A party with underage drinking in the UMW Apartments resulted in nine administrative refcrrals.

July 8- Three pieces of jewelry were stolen from a top desk drawer in Trinkle room 213.

July 26- A gas tank and fuel assembly from a johnboat, a small flat-bottomed boat, owned by the Geology Dept. was stolen from Facilities Services.

July 29- The UMW police department assisted the Fredericksburg Police with two arrests involving the possession of marijuana on Collegc Ave. One of the individuals involved was a UMW student and was issued an administrative referral.

August 1- A scooter, tricycle and two helmets were stolen from the bus stop area of Double Drive.

August 9- A Bible, a notebook and a pair of glasses were stolen from Trinkle Hall near the basement elevator.

August 24- A Garmin GPS unit was stolen from a vehicle in the Sunken Road parking lot. There were no other reports of theft or motor vehicle tampering in the lot.

August 24- A box of items was stolen from the Eagle Landing courtyard from a student who was moving in.

This information was compiled with help from
Assistant Vice President of Public Safety and Community Services Susan Knick

Board of Visitors Raises Tuition

◂ BOV, page 1

for the university, and the BOV has already garnered a capital contribution of a total of $75 million to help offset costs, said Steen.

Still, according to Steen, donations and fundraising are vital to the university in order to compensate improvement costs while maintaining the balance between faculty salaries and student tuition.

State revenues have been in decline over the last few years, Steen said. Because Fredericksburg is not technically located in Northern Virginia, the faculty at Mary Washington does not receive monetary compensation to offset the high cost of living, like at other universities such as George Mason.

As the May 7 news release from the Mary Washington website indicates, the cost of tuition, other fees and room and board for all students living on campus has gone up $1,200.

This increase resulted in overall cost increases ranging from 3.4 percent to 9 percent.

"I barely have nickels and dimes to rub togcther with my current student loans," senior Katie Flench said. Flench currently lives off campus.

Despite this change, Mary Washington is still one of the most affordable public universities in Virginia. Of the 15 public universities in Virginia, UMW has the 10th lowest cost.

For students who are not working, these tuition increases may require taking on employment. For those who already are, it may push them to take on more hours, which could affect their academic performance.

"[The tuition increase] affects me personally and academically," said Flench.

Cara MacDonald, a senior and out-of-state student, is also concerned with the increase.

"My family has been hit hard by the economy, and to avoid high interest rates of loans, my parents have been trying to pay up-front," she said. "Any increase at all is going to put a burden on us."

Overall Cost of UMW Attendance

	In-State	Out-Of-State
On-Campus	$15,874	$27,602
Off-Campus	$7,862	$19,590

President Hurley Focuses on Staff Salaries and Enrollment Cap

◂ HURLEY, page 1

He also said three billboards are up along two major highways in Richmond, Interstate 95 and Interstate 64. They advertise UMW as "Virginia's Only Best Value," a phrase given to Mary Washington by Fiske college reports.

Currently, Hurley said Mary Washington is working with other universities and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) to examine faculty salaries.

"George Mason has been the point institution in this effort to get SCHEV to understand that cost of living should be considered when determining faculty salaries," he said. "[Our] recommendation is that you should consider the cost of living when considering faculty salaries. SCHEV has to decide if this will be on their agenda."

Hurley said SCHEV was supposed to vote on the issue in July, but that it was pulled from the agenda. He is not sure when they will consider it again.

Along with cost of living, Hurley is trying to move UMW into a different peer group for financial comparison. Mary Washington faculty salaries are compared to several different public and private universities in the nation, which together comprise a peer group that Hurley feels doesn't give UMW an accurate representation right now.

He said that if UMW were in a more comparable peer group, the university will be eligible for state-provided increases in faculty salaries that Mary Washington currently misses out on.

"I am optimistic that we can change the faculty peer group," Hurley said. "The peer group is the important factor there. I take issue with the schools that they identify as our peers, and I'm trying to get that changed."

With the help of many committees, Hurley is in the process of developing a new Master Plan and Strategic Plan for the university. The Master Plan focuses on the physical development of the campus, while the Strategic Plan focuses on programmatic aspects, Hurley said.

"One's focused on buildings, [and] the other's focused on programs and services," he said.

A draft of the new Master Plan, which calls for residence hall renovations, a new performing arts center and a new dining hall and student center, was presented to the Board of Visitors in July. Hurley said it's time now to bcgin having conversations with students, alumni and the City of Fredericksburg about how they feel about it.

"The plan will be presented for student and employee input during the fall semester," he said.

He also confirmed that the hiring freeze, put into effect by Hample, has been lifted.

"We believe that were beyond any additional budget cuts, so we have been replacing and, where necessary, creating new positions," Hurley said.

One of the new positions being created is the Special Assistant to the President for Diversity and Equity. Hurley said it's the right thing to do in light of his attempt in the Strategic Plan to address poorly coordinated diversity initiatives.

"I can't remember the whole cost, but let's assume the cost of the position was $150,000," he said. "I budgeted half of that, figuring I could hire someone in the fall to begin in January. I haven't even started the search yet, [though]. I'll be working on that through the month of September, getting that all underway."

Sensitive Alarms Evacuate Building

◂ EAGLE, page 1

156-bedroom apartment building are forced to evacuate.

"[The reason for the numerous fire alarms] is a sensitive fire alarm system that evacuates the entire building if a person creates too much smoke or steam while cooking," Porter said.

Junior Eric Behringer experienced the fire alarm first hand

"My suitemate set off the fire alarm," Behringer said. "The fire marshal came in and said it wouldn't have gone off if it wasn't designed incredibly poorly. Apparently the exhaust in the microwaves comes out by the smoke alarm."

When asked about the statement, Institutional Fire Safety Officer Robert Parker said that's not something he would say.

"I feel that people should just learn to cook," junior Kane Kashouty said. "The fact that people have to open their windows and doors to cook is ridiculous."

Sophomore Ellen Smethurst agreed.

"It's been somewhat stressful cooking and having to worry about the amount of steam being put out," Smethurst said.

Residents have also complained about the behavior of the building staff at the hall meetings at the beginning of the year, where the student building supervisors yelled at residents regarding rules and expectations in Eagle Landing.

"Opening meetings are intended to introduce staff to residents, lay out the expectations of the community and highlight community services," Porter said in an e-mail to residents addressing the complaints. "I apologize that the message did not come across as intended."

"They basically just screamed at us," Kashouty said. "They yelled at the sophomores because they had been drinking and weren't supposed to be there in the first place. I'm sure sophomores were kind of upset."

In the e-mail, Porter included, "All community members living in Eagle Landing have a right to be there and are welcomed."

Senior Erin Burke had mixed feelings on the issue.

"Our room's consensus is that we understand why the meetings were harsh, but [we] feel that they carried [the meetings] out in an immature and rude way," Burke said.

However, students have also voiced their compliments about the apartment building.

Porter says the biggest compliment she has heard has been that people like only having two people to one bathroom and residents are enjoying the rotunda and the courtyard.

"It's definitely a nice place to live," Burke said.

"I love it so far," Smethurst said.

She said that her favorite things about Eagle Landing are the trash chutes, a well-accommodated kitchen and air-conditioning.

"It definitely lived up to expectations," sophomore Matt Willett said.

Top Five Things You Missed While You Were Gone

By ANNE ELDER
Staff Writer

1. **Student Sustainability Coordinator Rescued Bees in Monroe**

According to *UMW Magazine*, when senior Tori Wong learned of 10,000 bees living in Monroe Hall, she dccided to save them the environmentally friendly way. The bees were extracted from Monroe by Virginia beekeeper John Adams and now live in a rural area near Richmond.

2. **BOV Named New Rector, Gov. McDonnell Appointed BOV Members**

According to a university press release, Daniel K. Steen was named rector of the Board of Visitors, succeeding Nanalou Sauder. The Honorable Pamela J. White will take his place as vice rector and Patricia Revere will serve her second term as the board's secretary. Holly T. Cuellar of Virginia Beach and Joseph R. Wilson of Frcdcricksburg were named to the Board of Visitors, succeeding C. Maureen Stinger and J. William Poole.

3. **Eagle Village Vendors Signed On**

The Eagle Village website reported that Blackstone Coffee, Pancho Villa Express, Salad Creations, Home Team Grill and Quiznos have signed contracts to bc upcoming vcndors in the new shopping center.

4. **Hurley Declared Brompton Home**

In late July, Hurley moved into his residence at Brompton, the home of the president. According to the *Free Lance-Star*, he plans to host an open house during Family Weekend on Sept. 25 for students and families to tour his home.

5. **Mason and Randolph Offline**

For all upperclassmen walking down Campus Walk, the "beach" in between Mason and Randolph is no longer an open space to lounge. A fence went up over the summer as the two residence halls undergo makeovers.

Parade Magazine Recognizes UMW On College 'A-List'

◂ RANKINGS, page 1

"We are creating special sheets featuring these rankings and ratings to distribute widely to as many communities [as] we can reach," Farrar said.

As the country begins to notice UMW, these recent rankings also show how well UMW does on a national level.

Barr said it's great that UMW is beginning to move up from regional classifications to national ones.

"It's wonderful to be finally ranked nationally," Barr said.

These rankings are based on how the UMW community, including students, faculty, staff and alumni, feel about their experiences at UMW, Farrar said.

According to Farrar, when top publications rank for value, they look at more than just price. They also look at success factors for alumni after they graduate from Mary Washington. One publication cited the great value that UMW brings to students.

"The entire university, students, faculty and staff, can share in the success," Farrar said.

Viewpoints

Rough Landing at Eagle Village

Staff Editorial

The hype and glamor of Eagle Landing is slowly dying as the first residents realize the reality.

From the highway, Eagle Landing looks like any college student's dream: a gorgeous apartment building close to classes, parking, an ABC store and a grocery store. Residents can easily ride their bike across the bridge to get to campus or play a game of soccer on their very own turf field.

In reality, for almost $6,000 an academic year, students can expect extra parking costs, ridiculous fines for chipped paint, lukewarm shower water (assuming your shower even works), no bar stool seating, numerous fires, and an overall lack of communication and consistency.

Before move-in, students were shocked to find that an Eagle Landing parking pass would cost more than double what a normal residential parking pass costs. While students have an option to opt out of the Eagle Landing parking garage, this is not always an easy choice for students who have commitments to drive to early or late and are concerned with safety.



Courtesy of www.umw.edu

Upon move-in, students received mixed messages about everything from the banning of 3M hooks for hanging pictures to the allowance of automatic shut off toaster ovens and George Foreman grills.

The community assistants and other building staff had different answers when students asked about these items. Students were initially told that they could have toaster ovens, but then, only a week later during floor meetings, students were told the opposite. This decision was made because of the sensitive fire alarm system, but perhaps by fixing the system, daily appliances could be used.

While some miscommunication is understandable with a new staff and building, the list of problems continues to grow. Students were at first told to seal their own granite countertops to avoid staining and breaking, but then in an e-mail from Christine Porter, head of residence life, students were informed that the countertops are actually already sealed.

Many Eagle Landing residents have also been complaining about the showers. Many still do not have hot water, although according to Porter's e-mail a solution has been found. Some handicapped apartments have drainage issues, and therefore do not have workable showers. These problems should have been addressed prior to move-in, not two weeks into classes.

On top of all the construction issues and rules, the residents have been treated like children who have misbehaved. During the hall meetings, the student building supervisors screamed at residents while waving bags of beer cans. Their message was meant to scare students into following the rules, but made residence life look rude and unwelcoming.

For the $2,800 a month an Eagle Landing apartment costs among four roommates, they could have rented their own house in downtown Fredericksburg, and avoided the entire headache of Eagle Village.

After building such an enormous and anticipated addition to UMW, the University and Foundation needs to make sure they are building a reputable standing for Eagle Landing and the university.

The University needs to look seriously at the way Eagle Landing is being run so that students will not regret their decision to live on campus and will not pass on these bad experiences to future residents.

In Dorm Sex, Roommate Communication a Must

sexclamations
By Erin Hill
Columnist

For some students, returning to school presents new barriers and limits to their sexual activity. For others, it opens a completely new realm of opportunities and locations to experiment with sex. Whatever the case, one thing is certain; all students come to UMW with different levels of openness regarding sex, as well as varied experiences with sexual activities. Since you will probably be sharing a room with at least one other person, I highly recommend that you and your roommates set the ground rules regarding sexual activity in your shared living space as soon as possible. A conversation about 'dorm sex rules' will only get more awkward and difficult if you wait.

You do not need to state explicitly your sexual desires. Rather, you and your roommate should decide what sexual activities you will tolerate in your room and when. I highly recommend developing some sort of communication system or signal for private, sexual matters, such as a code illustration on the dorm room door. You could draw a banana on your dry-erase board, signaling that your roommate should call before entering the room. If you are comfortable having your roommate know something sexual is occurring in the room, the clearest way to communicate is via text message or in person.

Tell your roommate in advance if you plan to do something that might require some alone time in the room. Remember, your roommate would much rather leave the room than be awoken by the sounds of a bed creaking rhythmically. Moreover, having sex with a third party in the room ruins the heat of the moment. Agonizing over whether or not your roommate can hear your lovemaking takes away the pleasure and intimacy of coitus.

To make the discussion easier between you and your roommate(s), I have laid out a few dorm sex rules you may want to consider.

If your roommate is not actively and willingly engaging in you and your partner's copulation, do not have sex while they are present—even if they are sleeping. Do not have sex while your roommate is in the room unless you have his/her permission.

Do not have sex in your roommate's section of the room. In other words, do not have sex on his/her bed or desk. Your roommate will not find those sexual fluids on their sheets and chair as erotic as you and your sexual partner do.

Do not hog the room. This applies not only for sex, but also as a general guideline. Having a non-sexual 'hermit crab' roommate royally stinks; as does having a nymphomaniac constantly occupying the room. Give your roommate ample time alone in the room, regardless of whether or not sexual activities occur during that time.

Reassess these rules throughout the year. Make sure your arrangements for sexual activities are working well for everyone in the shared living space. The dialogue regarding sex between you and your roommates will become easier as you get to know one another better. Do not hold back when it comes to talking about sex, especially dorm sex rules. Explicitly state whether you are okay with certain activities.

Be proactive! It is much easier to say, "How do you feel about this," or "what if...?" than "I did this last night. Was that okay?" Chances are, if you ask your roommate how they feel about it after the fact, they will not tell you their genuine feelings about the issue.

Perhaps reading this article or thinking about having this discussion with your roommate makes you uneasy. If so, consider the possible outcomes of avoiding the discussion and making assumptions about what your roommate's feelings are regarding sexual activity. If you do not talk about it, you are more likely to walk in on the act or wake up to passionate moans in the middle of the night. Simply having the conversation is much less awkward.

Do not postpone your discussion about dorm sex, for setting these rules during foreplay is neither stimulating nor sexy. Having this conversation with your roommate will not only make sex more intimate, it will make sex safer. Talking to your roommate about sex makes storing condoms and other forms of protection in the room less awkward. Overall, communication about sexual activities in the dorm room is essential in maintaining a pleasant, comfortable living space.

If you need help getting the conversation started or are gridlocked by conflicting viewpoints on the matter, ask you RA for some ideas on how to handle the situation.

Boy Girl Ratio Makes Mr. Right Hard to Find

BY STEPHANIE LICHEIELLO
Guest Columnist

Mary Washington has a reputation for being a top-ranked public university and has been described as aesthetically pleasing by both students and residents in the area.

However, what our school appears to lack are eligible men. I think I speak for many ladies when I say that the 65:35 girl-to-boy ratio is just not cutting it.

All too often, we find ourselves talking to an attractive, intelligent and outgoing guy only to discover that he has a long distance relationship with his high school sweetheart back home.

Then you have the opposite extreme: you meet a fun, exciting guy who turns out to have some intense issues with commitment that you just are not ready to tackle. Why then, do we continue to search for "Mr. Right?"

It seems to me that relationships at Mary Washington are much like a long drawn out season of "The Bachelor." For four years, we find ourselves meeting new people and experiencing new things.

There will always be the he said-she said drama, the sob stories of ex-lovers and back-stabbing cheaters, and the various strategies of playing the game we call dating.

Thus, we encounter a situation where the men possess the ability to be as picky as they so please, whereas the women are not granted this same privilege.

If you are not willing to settle, there are a few rules to keep in mind. First, as a girl, it is important to weed out the men that are already taken in order to avoid being labeled a home wrecker.

Secondly, you must never consider the guys who have no intention of taking you on a real date. For the record, inviting me to meet you at a frat party and serving me jungle juice all night is no girl's idea of a date.

Finally, if you hope to avoid being called a cougar, I suggest you wait until the freshmen are at least of legal age before making your move.

If you have not noticed this discouraging trend, next time you find yourself in class look around the room.

More often than not you will be surrounded by girls. You may stumble upon a psychology class with two boys, a French class with five, and if you are lucky, a dance improv class that is swarming with testosterone and tights.

Although with an average class size of 22, having only a couple guys is not giving us much to work with. Ladies, I am not saying that it is impossible to find "Mr. Right" in college, but these circumstances pose a challenge that must be overcome.

With an incoming freshmen class of 950 students and a goal of increasing the total number of students enrolled in the future, one can only hope that men will rise to the occasion.

Letter from the President

Dear Students,

Welcome back. It's inspiring to see you make the campus come alive again after a relatively quiet summer. For those of you who are entering freshmen as the class of 2014, or who are transfers from other colleges, we welcome the diversity and fresh perspectives you bring to UMW. I'm predicting an exciting year filled with learning, living and the development of what will become lifelong friendships.

Many changes occurred over the summer. We opened Eagle Landing as our newest residence hall, we provided the new meal plans you asked for, we established new colleges of business and education, and we welcomed new deans, faculty and staff.

With new facilities and new people will come new traditions, but even so, we will maintain the culture, spirit and honored traditions that make Mary Washington such a special experience.

Let me use this opportunity to update you on a couple of the other projects underway on campus. First, you probably noticed the construction fence around Randolph and Mason Residence Halls.

The opening of Eagle Landing has enabled us to begin the much-needed renovation of all of our residence halls, and we are beginning with these two. This project will take close to two years to complete.

The Anderson Center, our new gymnasium, will be completed by next spring as will the renovation of Monroe Hall. Finally, our Dahlgren campus is under construction and will open in January of 2012. For those of you unfamiliar with Dahlgren, it is about twenty-seven miles east of here and is a Navy military base.

We are building this campus to meet the workforce development needs of the workers on the base and the surrounding region.

I look forward to engaging with you throughout the year. Please say hello when we see each other on campus walk, in Seacobeck, at sporting events or at social occasions.

I'm interested in what you think, and welcome your ideas about how to make our university better. My intention is to ask the *Bullet* to include a note from me to you periodically.

I will try to keep it real--and brief--so that you will find it worthwhile. Please feel free to provide feedback, suggestions or ask questions about topics you would like me to address.

This is a great time in all our lives and an adventure that we will share together.

Sincerely,
President Rick Hurley



Courtesy of www.umw.edu

the Bullet

Serving the University of Mary Washington Community since 1922.

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Letter and Editorial Policy

The *Bullet* is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words.

We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to the *Bullet* at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacobeck Hall or sent to our e-mail at umwbullet@gmail.com.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff. Contact the *Bullet* at 540-654-1133.

Viewpoints

Islamic Community Center Sparks Firestorm of Political Debate on Campus

Relocation of community center a necessity for positive relations between cultures

BY CALVIN SHERWOOD
Columnist

Almost nine years ago, fanatical Islamic terrorists killed thousands of people when they crashed planes into the Pentagon in Washington D.C. and World Trade Centers in New York City.

The smoke and dust have cleared, and Americans have continued with their lives. However, our country is still dealing with the repercussions of the aftermath even after it seemed the wounds had healed.

For the last few weeks, this context for the proposed Islamic Community Center split America down cultural and ideological lines. Unless a compromise is reached, this issue will only deepen the scars of Muslim/American relations.

There is an Islamic Community Center being built for a growing Muslim neighborhood; so what? Building a Muslim community center at that location is perfectly within legal bounds.

While preventing its construction would dangerously border on infringing upon religious freedom, it is obvious that the commissioners of this project were seriously lacking in political acumen and foresight. 9/11 is possibly the most sensitive subject for Americans. Any serious discussion or brainstorming by the builders should have predicted potential backlash in their initial equations.

Such a strong reaction indicates that America is not ready to see the religious symbols they used against them in war near what is considered to be 'sacred ground'.

This is not a tiny, angry minority either. Polls now show that 71 percent oppose the building of the center, and 46 percent of Americans hold an 'unfavorable view' of Islam in general.

Protests on both sides are growing. Political smearing and the traditional pointing-of-fingers as to who is 'un-American' will likely follow.

This is a pity, since no long-term solutions will come from the current radicalization of the masses. Everyone could suffer from the consequences.

Hate crimes against Muslims may increase. Homegrown terrorism could increase to conditions similar to Europe (where it is a terribly large threat to national security).

So far, this Islamic building project has been the spark that unleashed a wave of hysteria now affecting communities' miles away from Ground Zero. This is a moment needing political acumen.

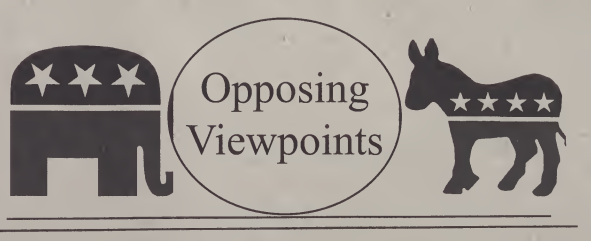
Relations are tense, and it requires attempts to soothe these heated tensions. Otherwise, building the community project would be a hollow and Pyrrhic victory that drives the wedge deeper between mainstream America and its Muslim community.

America should not strive for this outcome. I hope the builders of the Islamic Center, as well as the politicians who opposed it, realize that.

This is not just about the 'mosque', as many Americans think it is. The public outcry proves that. Both sides must address and condemn the deeper issue of distrust and lack of tolerance, and that will require reconciliation and compromise.

Maybe that means delaying the construction, potential relocation or maybe an inter-faith community center instead. We must do whatever we can do to dissuade hatred and radicalization in our country, regardless of the cost.

Therefore, while the Islamic Community Center has every right to continue building, I would urge them to seriously reconsider and possibly relocate it. Law and freedom do not require this action, but political sensitivity to the raw emotions in play demands it.



Blocking Islamic community center is a disgusting violation of religious tolerence

BY BRIAN AURICCHIO
Columnist

The earth gradually turns towards a new dawn, and as the sun pierces the New York skyline with unprecedented vitality, light moves down Lady Liberty's face, reminding us of the very principles that have created a collective American experience. Perhaps the freedom she has promised hasn't always been truthful, but a new burden of intolerance and ignorance begins to question her sincerity.

No American has forgotten the tragedies of Sept. 11, 2001; however, allowing this event to justify racial bigotry and imprudent hatred is self-indulgent dogmatism and arrogance. Were there not innocent Muslim Americans killed in those towers? Did their families not feel the pain the way the rest of us did? Let us not attack the Islamic religion, nor apply responsibility to many, based on the actions of a few.

The true enemy is Al-Qaeda and may justice be served swiftly on behalf of their actions. There is no justice in condemning an entire religion based on gross distortions of Islam.

Muslim Americans participate in the same civic actions as the rest of us. To deny their right to build a house of worship, a right Americans have fought and died for, is simply un-American.

This is not a thirteen-story mosque, but a community center welcoming all New Yorkers, including a culinary school, as well as basketball courts and other areas for recreational use.

Of the thirteen stories, the top two stories will be centers for Islamic prayer. We are turning to our own neighbors with the self-righteous audacity to tell them they cannot build on private land as they choose.

We cannot support this disgusting violation of basic human rights. If we do not allow Muslim Americans to build this mosque, where is the line to end this racial bias? This is not a breeding ground for Islamic militant terrorists. This is not a beacon of victory for Al-Qaeda. In fact, you can hardly see Ground Zero from the community center.

There is already a mosque four blocks away from ground zero. Should that be removed as well? While we're at it, why don't we remove all mosques from the five boroughs of New York, or how about the entire state?

Islamophobia has taken a firm hold of our rationale.

According to a Time Magazine poll, 61% of Americans oppose the mosque being built in Manhattan. It seems that the Red Scare is no longer engraved in the minds of Americans, so we are once again ready to recreate publicly accepted prejudice and fear.

Already this mosque is turning into a political event. Republicans are questioning the silence of Democrats, while Democrats are questioning the tolerance of Republicans. Are there not larger issues that should take precedence? The War on Terror and our failing economy is worthy of such attention.

Keith Olbermann questions if Americans know why we invaded Iraq in the first place. Was it not our original intention to protect the Iraqi people from the tyranny of Saddam Hussein? We are sacrificing American lives to protect this predominantly Muslim population, while they can scarcely call themselves citizens on the domestic front.

The contradictions in US foreign policy are blatant, but this unjust Islamophobia inhibits the questioning of our true motives.

We have quickly forgotten that our ancestors, less than two generations ago, faced the same type of discrimination Muslim Americans must now endure. The majority of us have gradually fallen under the category of white, while those who do not fit the mold face the tribulations of racism.

The once oppressed have turned into the oppressors, losing any sympathies they might have had. Let us revitalize American equality with vigilance towards these injustices.

Letter to the Editor:

Town Hall Reveals McDonnell's Backward Energy Stance

Bob McDonnell's town hall meeting last Tuesday solidified two things for me: that he is a brilliant and gifted politician and that he has a backward outlook on environmental issues.

While most of the discussion focused around the privatization of ABC liquor stores, several questions brought up the governor's environmental policy.

Despite the devastating oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, McDonnell said he remains committed to pursuing drilling off Virginia's coast.

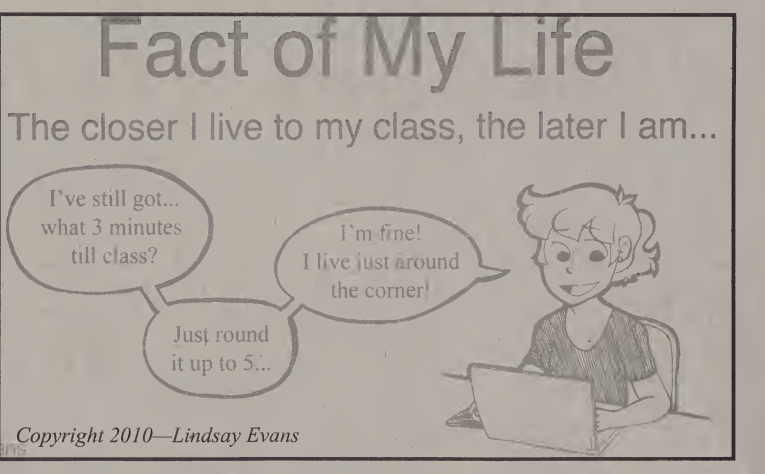
Ignoring the lessons of the BP disaster is irresponsible and calling it "a fluke" is foolish.

While drilling would bring in many new jobs, so would investment in cleaner energy alternatives.

Virginia cannot afford to lose the thousands of tourists who visit our beaches. Nor can we afford to pay for the massive clean up an oil spill would require.

> *"Ignoring the lessons of the BP disaster is irresponsible, and calling it 'a fluke' is foolish.*
>
> *—Cara MacDonald"*

Cara MacDonald is a Senior



To Facilitate Fun, Who You're With Counts

If you're looking for wisdom from a UMW senior, just stop reading right now.

By no means am I qualified to offer advice about anything other than overcoming a Thursday-night concussion in time for Friday's trip to UVA. Or possibly, how to avoid suicide after two consecutive all-nighters.

I don't intend to talk about sex every week, and I'm certainly not trying to get political. But, I do hope to amuse you and, more importantly, myself.

This summer, I had the opportunity to live in Houston and work at an art gallery. The experiences I had were amazing, I befriended some great people, blah, blah, blah. To be really cliché, it made me realize that I have no clue about what I want to do with the rest of my life.

I'm talking existential crises levels of uncertainty.

For as long as I've been cognizant of the facts that I will have a future and that my parents won't be funding my lavish lifestyle forever, I've wanted to marry a rich (preferably not that old) guy, pop out a kid or two, and join the PTA or whatever it is housewives do once they've bought everything at Nordstrom.

I was going to hire a good nanny, buy a Mercedes, take up tennis, and maybe flip a table and pull out someone's weave when the Real Housewives of Fredericksburg begins filming.

What can I say? I'm lazy, hedonistic, and, obviously, a sucker for true love.

Over the summer, I met a ton of potential future husbands. They were all nice enough and rich enough (can you ever really be rich enough?), but they were also mad boring.

I pride myself on my ability to feign interest in anything, but you try listening to these people drone on about their favorite World Series or about how Obama has been such a monumental disappointment all summer.

Cool. Dad, I'll be in the bathroom shotgunning the beers I have in my purse, but when I get back, please, please, please tell me more about your recent trip to the cardiologist. Ugh.

Every time my friends texted me about their adventures at home, I found myself wishing I was bumming around with them in Fredericksburg (I know, right?). By the time I was packing to come home, no amount of free drinks, food or security for my future would have been enough to keep me interested in those old bros.

All I really wanted out of the summer was to find a man with whom I could spend the rest of his life and instead I got a clue.

Obviously, I can't abandon my dreams due to a few setbacks. However, for the moment, I'm resigned to the realization that I would rather be sitting around my apartment with my crazy, fun, poor friends than, well, doing anything with these dull and stuffy rich guys.

If we can excuse how trite they are for a moment, I'm willing to acknowledge that The Beatles may have been onto something with that line in She's Leaving Home. "Fun is the one thing that money can't buy," floated through my brain nearly every time I had to force a smile and try to remain conscious at yet another uptight cocktail party.

Sure, money buys food, alcohol, and, well, virtually everything else you need to facilitate fun, but when it comes down to it, maybe it's who you're with, not what you're doing that actually matters.

Who knew?

Thought You Knew



By Jordan Kroll
Columnist

Entertainment

LOST: The Complete Collection Unveiled

By JOSHUA LAWSON
Staff Writer



courtesy of uncrate.com

After six years, with hundreds of questions and thousands of obscenities yelled at television screens in confused desperation, "LOST" finally came to an end this past May. Since then, fans have wandered the streets aimlessly, their Tuesday nights devoid of meaning.

With the recent release of "LOST: The Complete Collection" on DVD and Blu-ray, which contains over 5,000 minutes of footage, there is now enough "LOST" for every day of the week.

Packaged in a box that appears to have been recovered from the infamous four-toed statue itself, this impressive set is filled to the brim with goodies for fans.

Included are a gorgeous map of the island, a booklet of episode synopses, an ankh containing a hidden message from Jacob, a journal page from the Black Rock, the mysterious board game Jacob and the Man-in-Black play on the beach, a Dharma Initiative black light and a hidden bonus disc that will easily take a good hour to find.

With packaging that so perfectly embodies the spirit of the show, it's easy to forget about the discs themselves, but as many "LOST" fans know, the bonus features hold perhaps the most exciting content of all.

"The Complete Collection" (as well as the Final Season, for those who don't wish to spend $149.99) features "The New Man in Charge," a 10-minute epilogue giving a glimpse into Hurley and Ben's partnership.

It's an excellent addition to the "LOST" lexicon sure to please any fan of the show. Some loose ends are tied up (one which has been a thorn in the side of "LOST" fans since the first season), there's a surprise appearance by a long-absent character, and a new chapter in the history of the island is left open for speculation.

"LOST: The Complete Collection" is a terrific set that offers more than the sum of its six seasons' parts. While owners of the previous five seasons of the show may prefer buying the Final Season to complete their collection, anybody leaning towards the purchase of "The Complete Collection" should blow open the hatch and dive in.

Upsets, Awkwardness and Predictability at the Emmys

By NANCY BELLE
Staff Writer

Last Sunday, the 62nd Primetime Emmy Awards opened with the cast of "Glee," Joel McHale, Tina Fey, John Hamm, Kate Gosselin, Randy Jackson and host Jimmy Fallon all singing and dancing to a version of "Born to Run" by Bruce Springsteen. It was a great way to open the show and grabbed the audience's attention. Here's a rundown of the big winners and losers of the show.

Much to the dismay of its rabid fans, in its final season, "LOST" was completely shut out and left without a single award.

The cast and crew of "Modern Family," however, were on a roll. Not only did they perform a great comedy sketch early in the show, featuring George Clooney and Stewie from "Family Guy," the new series won six out of the fourteen awards for which it was nominated, the most for a television series this year. Some of these included Outstanding Comedy Series and Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series.

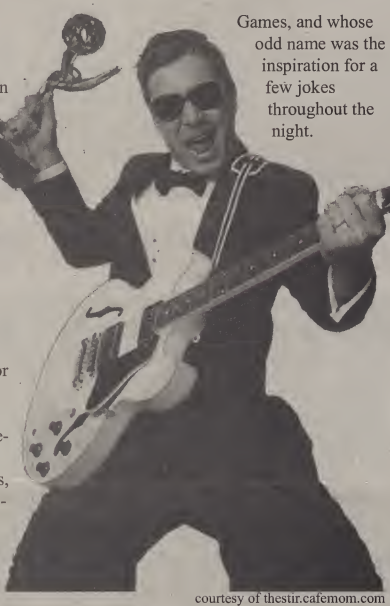
In fact, "Modern Family" ended up stealing the limelight from "Glee," which only won four of the nineteen awards it was nominated for, proving that too much hype may not be a good thing.

There were a few upsets when it came to the awards. "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" won the award for Outstanding Variety, Musical, or Comedy Series for the eighth consecutive year, besting the short-lived "Tonight Show with Conan O'Brien."

For the first time in its eight-year history, "The Amazing Race" did not win the award for Best Reality Competition. Instead, "Top Chef" took home the award to the surprise of many. "Mad Men" won for Outstanding Drama Series, beating out the final season of "LOST" as well as "True Blood."

Among actors and actresses, Jim Parsons of "The Big Bang Theory" took home the award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series, Jane Lynch of "Glee" took home the award for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series, Bryan Cranston, of "Breaking Bad" took home Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series, and Edie Falco took home Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series for "Nurse Jackie."

Bucky Gunts won for Outstanding Directing for a Variety, Music or Comedy Special for the Opening Ceremony of the 2010 Olympic Games, and whose odd name was the inspiration for a few jokes throughout the night.


courtesy of thestir.cafemom.com

"Temple Grandin," an HBO movie about autistic animal researcher and autism advocate, Temple Grandin, won seven awards, including Outstanding Television Movie. Grandin himself was in attendance and was often seen cheering when the movie won awards.

Host Jimmy Fallon's numerous attempts at singing throughout the night, except for the opening number, were awkward and more annoying than funny. Almost as awkward as Fallon though, was the order of awards.

The awards were given out for comedies, then dramas, then miniseries/tv movies. For someone whose only interested in one of those, like comedy, having to sit through two hours of random awards waiting for Best Comedy Series to be presented is not fun. They should have mixed up the order to keep things fresh and hold the viewer's attention.

Despite some upsets, the Emmys were, as usual, somewhat predictable and merely showed what the critics think we should be watching.

Bullet Points

Thursday, September 2

- Psi Upsilon's annual **Welcome Back Luau** is at the Huston's Bar downtown at 9 p.m. Admission is $10 at the door with your UMW ID. Bring a date and some friends and party the night away.
- It's **Trivia Night** in the Underground at 8 p.m. Form a team of four and compete to win $100 in EagleOne. That's a lot of free laundry. Think about it.
- The weekly **bowling party** at Liberty Lanes starts tonight at 9 p.m., so bring a couple friends and enjoy unlimited bowling for just $5.

Friday, September 3

- Last year, they marched down campus walk and started a dance party on the Lee Hall patio in the rain. This year, **Elby Brass** will be playing downtown at Market Square at 7 p.m. completely free of charge. Believe me, you'll have fun.
- Comic **Kevin Shea** will perform in the Great Hall at 8 p.m. Apparently, he's known as the Korean Kanye West, whatever that means. If you're looking for a few laughs on a Friday night, your search is over.
- It's **Be A Kid Again Night** at the Underground at 9 p.m., so stop by to dance to nostalgiac songs, make free spin art, and have your picture taken in a ridiculously oversized chair.
- Cheap Seats is showing **Get Him To The Greek**, starring Russell Brand and Jonah Hill, at 7 p.m. in Dodd Auditorium for $1, and **Iron Man 2**, starring Robert Downey Jr. and Mickey Rourke, at 10 p.m.

Saturday, September 4

- Come to Read All Over Books at 307 William St. downtown at 7 p.m. to see local bands **The Hounds, The Weeze, and Something Intelligent** perform for only $5. The Weeze are a Weezer tribute band, so maybe they'll play songs that Weezer fans actually want to hear, something the actual band stopped doing long ago. Zing!
- Can you sing? No? Perfect! That's exactly what makes **Karaoke Night** at The Underground fun. So pick out a really embarrassing song, bring some similarly untalented friends, and belt out vocals that will have half the crowd cringing and the other half cracking up. It starts at 9 p.m.
- Cheap Seats will be presenting **Iron Man 2** at 7 p.m. in Dodd Auditorium and **Get Him To The Greek** at 10 p.m., both for $1 each.
- Is your club looking to host an event this year? If so and you'd like some help finding out how to create a truly great event, come to the **Event Planning Workshop** in the Great Hall from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. You'll need to sign up in the OSACS office in Seacobeck by Friday, Sept. 3 if you plan to attend.

Sunday, September 5

- Cheap Seats will be presenting **Iron Man 2** in Dodd Auditorium for $1.
- The **Underground Programming Council** will meet in the OSACS conference room at 5 p.m. so stop by if you'd like to get involved and help plan future events in The Underground.
- Other than that, it's looking like a lazy Sunday, so **kick back and enjoy yourself,** or scramble at the last minute to finish your homework for Monday.

Monday, September 6

- This is not a joke. Keep them in mind when I tell you that if your dream has been to **learn to ride a Segway,** then come to 707 Princess Anne St. from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Again, I'm not joking. You can get free Segway training today. Free. Segway. Training. Best day ever? I think so. Be aware, you have to make a reservation by calling 540-656-2760.

Tuesday, September 7

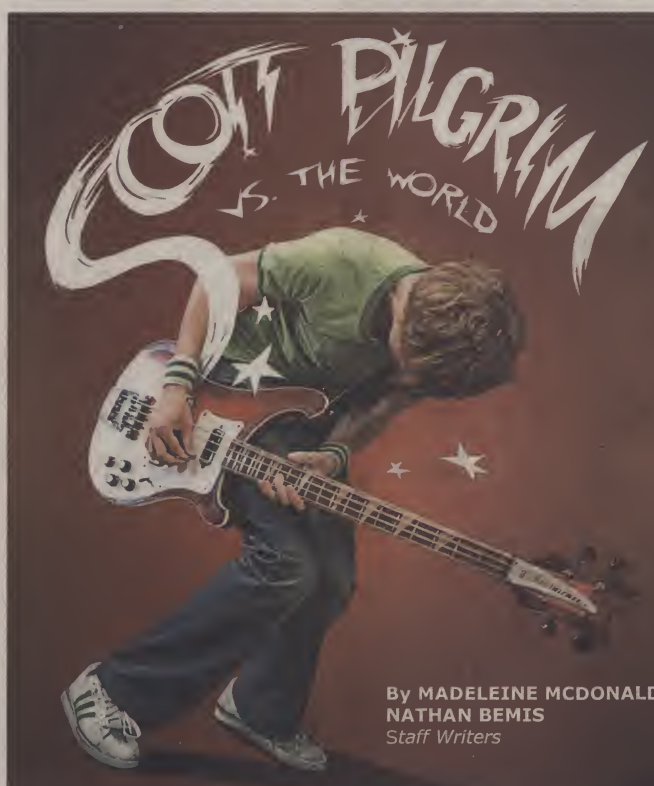
- Pop rocker **Anthony Snape** will be performing in The Underground at 8 p.m. to promote his new single, "Say So." To get a sample of his style before you decide whether or not you want to go, check out anthonysnape.com. It's pretty good.
- Even if you did it on Monday, you can still come back again every Monday through Saturday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. to **learn to ride a Segway.** Just remember to call 540-656-2760 to make a reservation.

Wednesday, September 8

- Oh, it's back! **Bingo Night** at The Underground returns tonight at 8 p.m. So get some friends to join you for a chance to win some great prizes and hear the same jokes again and again. Remember, whenever they call out "B4," you're supposed to yell, "before what?" Hilarious.
- There's always a need for blood to help those in need, so come to the **Blood Drive** at 8 p.m. Walk-ins are accepted and encouraged, so absolutely stop by if you have a chance. Or make some time. It'll be very appreciated.

Send Bullet Points to tella@mail.umw.edu.

Entertainment



courtesy of geektyrant.com

Scott Pilgrim vs. The World

By MADELEINE MCDONALD AND NATHAN BEMIS
Staff Writers

"Scott Pilgrim vs. The World" is a movie that didn't do so well in the box office, but it's definitely one you should see. It's a story of romance, epic battles wielded with fists and guitars and second chances. It's packed with amazing visual effects, witty one-liners and face-melting music, and it's definitely worth the price of admission.

Scott Pilgrim is your everyday not-so-great guy who falls for Ramona Flowers, a woman with "baggage" in the form of seven evil ex-boyfriends he must confront and defeat. The role of Scott Pilgrim is a huge departure from Michael Cera's usual wimpy hipster nerd persona. In this film, he's kind of a jerk—but the kind of jerk that everyone might lapse into from time to time.

His flaws and mistakes make him relatable to real people. For example, he avoids breaking up with his initial high school girlfriend, Knives Chau, due to cowardice that leads to a messy end to their relationship. At the end of the day though, he's a welcome change from the typical knight in shining armor in most blockbuster films.

Mary Elizabeth Winstead plays Scott's love interest, Ramona Flowers, an aloof, cool girl who travels Toronto on roller skates making deliveries for Amazon. However, this aloofness keeps us from really getting to know her or why Scott is so in love with her. The film's two-hour runtime also rushes the development of their relationship, which is better portrayed in the comic book series.

These complaints aside, the movie is absolutely amazing. The film is punctuated by colorful visual effects that turn Scott Pilgrim's world into a place where people shoot fireballs out of their hands, mystical battle dragons are born from synthesizer keyboards, and defeated opponents burst into piles of spare change.

Comic book visual effects are also at play here, especially in the quick transitions between scenes. Sound effects are also visualized, such as the "ding dong" of a doorbell appearing as literal text on screen. All these make for an explosive action film packed with quirky humor.

The soundtrack is also fantastic, featuring songs written by Beck for Scott's band, Sex Bob-omb, as well as songs by Metric and Broken Social Scene. Metric's "Black Sheep" is a sexy, surreal track featuring Emily Haines' haunting voice telling the story of a relationship gone bad.

Equally memorable are the hilarious songs performed by Broken Social Scene masquerading as the band Crash and the Boys. These songs parody the crushing depression of emo culture with titles like "I'm So Sad, So Very, Very Sad" and "We Hate You, Please Die." One of the fight scenes is even set to a Bollywood dance number.

"Scott Pilgrim vs. the World" has a little something for everybody. It's a love story with high-flying fistfights. It's a gamer's movie that still maintains a unique indie-hipster chic. But more than anything, it's two hours of adrenaline-pumping, awe-inspiring, I-d-totally-buy-the-t-shirt greatness that demands to be seen and heard. So what are you waiting for?

As Tall As Lions Kick Off the Semester Right

By KYLE SHEARIN
Staff Writer

To welcome back old students and help ease new ones into the occasionally exciting life at UMW, alternative-rock band As Tall As Lions performed in Ball Circle on Friday night.

If you've never heard their music, imagine a more atmospheric version of Snow Patrol with Jeff Buckley as the front man. This makes the band's intimate but powerful sonic texture quite fitting for small clubs but also translated to an outside venue surprisingly well.

The band's onstage presence was a little awkward at first, as it was a little hard to distinguish if they were trying to be funny or just saying whatever came to mind. The band's tight playing secured the crowd's interest throughout though and impressively brought the life out of their recordings.

Eventually the audience loosened up, and the band seemed to be enjoying themselves immensely. A running joke during the concert was that the members of As Tall As Lion's were part of the graduating class of UMW in the early '90s but couldn't remember which year exactly.

The funniest moment of the night was the impromptu hot dog eating contest between three students halfway through the band's set. It gave the whole evening a distinctly summery vibe.

If the sleeping gentleman sprawled out next to me was any indication, As Tall As Lions can be a very relaxing band. If I can fault them for anything, the show offered very little thrills for those not already diehard fans.

Nitpicking aside, As Tall As Lions was received well and hopefully secured a place in many freshmen's hearts as the first band they saw play at UMW.



As Tall As Lions hit all the right notes at their performance last Friday on Ball Circle. Marie Sicola/Bullet

'The Expendables': Explosions, Muscles and Fictional Latino Dictators

By MARSHALL SCHULTE
Staff Writer

If you have any qualms about seeing "The Expendables," know this: it's exactly what the previews told you it would be--a big action movie with a lot of burly men blowing up the army of a fake Latin country. Decide whether that's enough for you.

For those still reading, the plot here is basically just an excuse to blow things up. Mr. Church, played by Bruce Willis, hires a group of mercenaries, featuring Sylvester Stallone, Jason Statham and Jet Li, to kill the dictator of Vilena, a fictional island country somewhere in the Gulf of Mexico.

Further complications revolve around a girl on the island that Stallone's character develops a soft spot for, but even this is still nothing more than thin justification to blow more stuff up.



courtesy of mrmoviefiend.wordpress.com

For some, maybe not enough stuff gets blown up. All in all, there are only four action scenes in the film: one at the start, two in the middle, and one for the big finish. It might not be enough for some that the whole movie isn't one long, 103-minute action sequence, but the dramatic scenes in the middle actually help develop a few of the characters a bit.

An attempt to develop Li's character through his Napoleon complex is cute, but we never actually learn anything about him beyond the fact that he really doesn't like to be beaten by dudes bigger than him.

Speaking of big dudes, "Stone Cold" Steve Austin does a good job standing there menacingly and throwing people around, but the real standout in the action scenes is Statham, who can throw a knife like nobody's business. Well, I guess it might be the business of the poor Latino guy on the other end of that knife.

If you're expecting "There Will Be Blood," then this movie isn't for you. However, if you actually like to have stupid fun once in awhile, this is a movie to go see.

LIMBO

Exclusive Online-Only Review



courtesy of mattbrett.com

"There is no intro cutscene, no prelude. You are a boy who wakes up in a dark forest, looking for your sister. That is all the info you are given before being thrust into a dangerous world by yourself."

Read Evan Fritz's review of "LIMBO" at umwbullet.com.

Features



Marie Sicola/Bullet

Students gather, eat and enjoy free merchendise from local vendors at a freshman orientation event on Aug. 19.

The Freshman Year... *Fun, Mistakes, Memories*

By KAITLIN MAYHEW
Staff Writer

The final weeks of August evoke memories of freshman year for many college graduates and upperclassmen. New friends, enemies, mistakes and fun are all a part of what these UMW students and alumni recall.

Yesterday a brand new group of the collegiate bound entered the freshman halls at UMW to create their own memories.

Meeting New People

Meeting new people and making new friends are the themes of the first week of college, when hall events, orientation groups and ice-breakers have everyone constantly talking. Eric Steigleder, who graduated last spring, said he remembers feeling the pressure.

"So much emphasis is placed on 'meeting new people,' at college that you're made to feel inept if you don't have three new best friends by the end of the day," he said.

Steigleder's advice is to relax. "Be yourself and you'll meet plenty of people."

Senior Amanda Gold, agreed that it's important to take the pressure off.

"Know that everyone is looking to make friends, so if you're the one going up to people no one will think you're weird," she said. "They'll think you're confident and appreciate it."

Although there are multiple events and chances to meet different people, it's possible to fall into the rut of only hanging out with roommates. Kay Boatner, '08 said it's important to recognize this, and not to let it happen.

"Get to know your suite and hallmates too," Boatner said. "You never know, your new BFF could be right next door!"

See FRESHMAN page 8

Autism Center Opens

A new play lab opening in Oct. will help students learn how to teach children with disabilities.

By JORDAN KROLL
Staff Writer

The UMW Autism Clinic and Play Lab will open its doors in October, offering both support for children with autism and related disabilities and a hands-on opportunity for UMW students enrolled in the course "Special Topics in Education: Autism" to experience working with children with disabilities prior to entering the workforce.

Nicole Myers, a professor in the Special Education department, and her colleagues developed the idea for the Clinic and Play Lab because, "many more children [are] getting diagnosed with autism and related disabilities [than] in the past and [we needed] to help prepare our students to work with children with more severe disabilities such as intellectual disabilities and autism."

Although many universities offer courses specifically related to autism, Myers wanted to go a step further and introduce the Teaching Students with Autism Certificate.

According to Myers, "the certificate was developed with collaboration from Commonwealth Autism Service by faculty in Special Education, Instructional Design and Technology, and Psychology as a result of a $36,000 grant award from the university."

Once the new certificate was ap-

See AUTISM, page 8



All Spiced Up

with Danielle Rosenberg

Danielle Rosenberg/Bullet

"Squash Pasta in a Rosé Butter Sauce"

A New Approach

At a certain point in every new adult's life (yes, you are probably a new adult), he or she realizes every meal of the day should not and cannot consist of cereal, macaroni and cheese, and/or Tyson's brand frozen chicken nuggets. It is with this transition in mind that I have decided to focus the content of this column on creating a healthier, more sophisticated palate, while maintaining a simplistic approach to everyday cooking.

Since it is August, the peak of the growing season, my first recipe contains as a central ingredient one of the most abundant of summer vegetables: squash. This dish has a simple sauce made with a dry rosé (a dry white wine may certainly be substituted, though I strongly urge all on a budget to avoid white zinfandel at all costs) and is good for a light but filling meal. So without further ado, I present the recipe I admittedly just threw together one day.

Squash and Pasta in a Rosé Butter Sauce

2-3 Tbsps. unsalted butter
1 cup rosé
1 plump garlic clove, minced
½ Yellow squash (yellow for the color), sliced
1 tsp. dry dill weed
1 tsp. dry basil or 1 tbsp. freshly chopped basil
½ tsp. paprika
2 handfuls pasta (I used some wheat angel-hair pasta because it was all I had around)
1 cup baby spinach

Cook the pasta until it is al dente (per usual method). Then, in a small sauté pan melt the butter and add the wine, bringing to a slow simmer to begin reducing the wine. Add the minced garlic and sliced squash, stirring occasionally until the squash is cooked. Turn the heat to low and stir in the dill weed, basil, paprika and spinach. Let this cook until spinach has reduced a little (but not until it looks like it came frozen in a box), stirring all the while so as not to burn anything.

Plate the pasta and pour the sauce and vegetables on top.

Simple.

Serves 1-2 as a light meal.

Wine Pairing:

This dish tastes great with a dry white wine. I had a Greek white from Santorini with it which was slightly acidic with a floral, oaky scent.

Features



Courtesy of Nicol Myers

Photo from a Daybreak event where UMW students lead interactive games for local disabled children. Daybreak Saturdays will start again this fall on Sept. 11.

Area's First 'Play Lab' Opens

◂ AUTISM page 7

proved, Myers received a Jepson Fellowship, which allowed her to teach part-time while researching "local autism related needs and [developing] plans for the UMW Autism Clinic and Play Lab." After a year spent researching and designing a special curriculum, the Play Lab was approved.

The clinic is open to students of all ages who are diagnosed with autism, ADHD, and other intellectual disorders.

Undergraduate seniors and graduate students at UMW enrolled in the course will spend the first few weeks of the semester training in "research-based play strategies" before volunteering at the clinic the supervision of Myers and UMW alum Heather DeCou, who owns the local disability agency, Exceptional Support Services in Fredericksburg.

Anyone can take the course, even if they are not seeking a degree in Special Education.

Myers stressed, "If a teacher or someone working in the community has an interest in the Play Lab and this course, they can register for it provided they already have a bachelor's degree. We want folks from community agencies taking this course."

Already Myers has made a strong connection with the community, both at UMW and in the Fredericksburg area.

The use of the facility for the Play Lab, located in Stafford, is actually going to be free, thanks to its involvement with Helping Hands Pediatric Occupational Therapy. They've also received a number of donations from different organizations in the community, raised money through various events on campus, and worked with a UMW business class last spring to hold fundraisers at Chick-fil-a and McDonalds.

The Knights of Columbus awarded the Play Lab a $20,000 grant, allowing it to run for its first two sessions this upcoming school year. Unfortunately, according to Myers, this grant generally focuses on starting new projects so they still must continue to look for a more permanent source of funding for the future.

They have been participating in the Pepsi Refresh grant contest, where anyone can vote on various organizations to receive a $20,000 grant, but Myers is not optimistic about being in the top 10 for the grant by the Aug. 31 deadline.

"However," Myers said, "the Pepsi Refresh publicity has allowed us to get the word out about the UMW Play Lab and to receive some other donations."

Myers also plans to raise awareness through a variety of events the Play Lab will sponsor this year. There will be a UMW Autism Brown Bag Series, which will offer free presentations on disability issues, and Daybreak, a respite program where UMW students run educationally based programs for kids with disabilities with the help of The Arc of Rappahannock.

Additionally, every April UMW hosts the Community Disability Fair, where people come to campus and host tables that get the word out about different organizations.

On September 11-12 Tattoo Revival, located downtown, will be donating 100% of its proceeds to the Play Lab.

Myers hopes to see this project grow over the next few years into a fully funded program with a permanent location on the UMW campus. Ultimately, Myers would like to see UMW have a permanent impact on the disability community in the area.

Ellis Sequel Disappoints Fans

By JORDAN KROLL
Staff Writer

Twenty-five years after the release of his successful debut novel, *Less Than Zero*, Bret Easton Ellis is back with its sequel, *Imperial Bedrooms*.

Although all Ellis's work published in the years between *Less Than Zero* and this latest novel follows various members of the same cast of loosely connected characters, *Imperial Bedrooms* picks up with the disillusioned youth we left in 1985, only now they're disillusioned adults in 2010.

This newest addition to Ellis's repertoire certainly doesn't lack the overt sexuality, graphic violence or rampant drug use of its predecessors, but it does seem to be missing the apathy and callousness that make his previous works so much more enjoyable.

To put it simply, *Imperial Bedrooms* has too much of a conscience, considering it comes from the same man who brought us *American Psycho*.

Ellis wrote *Less Than Zero* when he was 21. The entire novel is about bored, rich college-aged kids in Los Angeles. Readers are privy to their world for only a month, but that's more than enough time to see these kids being kids, while exploring a dark abyss devoid of any morals.

In the sequel they're all still wandering hopelessly through LA with their immoral compasses, but they're also still acting like over-privileged kids, which is pretty pathetic considering they're in their 40's.

When the characters were 18 and living so recklessly just because they could, it was exciting and dangerous. Now that they know better and spend half the novel justifying their immature actions to readers, the whole thing reads like Ellis begging to still be considered relevant.

Ironically, I thought he was before starting *Imperial Bedrooms*.

When Ellis was first thrust onto the literary scene during his undergraduate years at Binghamton University in the 80's, the subjects he dealt with were new and shocking to readers. There weren't many outlets where people could learn about how shamelessly that part of society lives.

Now, thanks largely to the fine programming on E! and Bravo, not to mention that whole internet thing, we are over-exposed to this. There hardly seems a need for someone to be writing an insider's look at L.A.'s rich and troubled anymore.

Beyond the sheer irrelevance of this novel, the plot just comes up short. Ellis is known for his intertwining plots that are never what they seem, but I've read more complex stories in my creative writing classes.

Imperial Bedrooms is just the convoluted story of three middle-aged men fighting over a blonde twenty-three-year-old who wants to be an actress in LA. Arguably Ellis's most realistic novel.

Of course, Ellis is too clever for his first novel in five years to be that simplistic. With such a basic, contrived plot, it's likely that, like his other works, *Imperial Bedrooms* acts as an updated commentary on our one-dimensional, materialistic culture. Hell, every other page references a character's iPhone or BMW.

An important, though certainly not unique, lesson that we could all benefit from remembering, sure, but Ellis has taught readers variations of the evils of materialism in six previous works. And each one does it better than *Imperial Bedrooms*.



theaudiobookbay.com

Perhaps this critique is too harsh. The book isn't poorly written and it was a great way to spend a summer afternoon, but for one of Ellis's biggest fans it was a massive disappointment.

So, while I don't necessarily endorse this book as a jumping off point for your Bret Easton Ellis fandom, I urge everyone who hasn't already to read his other novels. Then, once you've seen what he's actually capable of, pick up *Imperial Bedrooms* and just enjoy the fact that you get to catch up with some interesting characters, even if you don't like where they're headed.

Year One Begins

◂ FRESHMAN page 7

Senior James White has fond memories of friends from his freshman year in Jefferson Hall.

"Personally I've never met anyone like the people I lived with in Jefferson Hall," he said. "It was definitely an adventure getting to know everyone."

Senior Erin McCarthy is still close with many people she met her freshman year.

"You really do meet people who will be important to you all four years of college," she said.

Memories

According to White, "Freshman year was all about experiences." He recalled his own experience of living on the fourth floor of Jefferson Hall in 2007.

"Some of the most interesting things happened when we all just sat in the common room," he said. "There was no T.V., no entertainment. It was like we were stranded on an island and just dealt with whatever our differences were."

Steigleder too, remembers spending many hours in the common room with friends.

"You learn pretty quickly that you basically live in a gigantic commune that happens to have classes," he said.

Freshman dorms put lots of people in small spaces, and according to Boatner, this creates a recipe for lasting memories.

Two years after her graduation, the first memory that came to her mind was a prank war that went on in Mason Hall her freshman year.

"[It] went on for months," she said. "I remember coming back to my room to find that everything was saran wrapped. Everything–my bed, my shoes, my toothbrush, etc. We retaliated by running string all over their room so they couldn't walk in there. Good times."

Advice

"Freshman year is about adapting to a totally new environment and making the most of it," McCarthy said.

She thinks that getting involved with the people and events in your dorm and campus are the best ways to adapt.

Gold agreed. She recommended going to the Club Carnival to get a taste for what the campus has to offer.

"College is what you make of it so get involved," Gold said. "There are so many clubs for every interest."

Boatner said it's important to have fun, enjoy the college experience and not be too strict.

"Do skip a class once in a while," Boatner said. "And not just to catch up on homework for another one."

Danielle Peters, another recent graduate, recommends spending some free time in downtown Fredericksburg, checking out the town and the people.

"There's so much to discover," she said. "I graduated and I'm still finding new restaurants and places to hang, as well as great people."

Senior Rachel Owen advised to try to get along with roommates, even if it's difficult. But after the first semester reconsider if it's working or not.

"Don't be afraid to move out," Owen said.

There is a lot of shifting after the first semester: some people drop out, or transfer or move, so there's always new dorms open.

She also recommends making friends with the RA on your hall.

"You'll know when fire drills are," she said.

Though every freshman will have good and bad memories of their first year at UMW, McCarthy said that for her, most of it was positive.

"Freshman year was so memorable because of all the change that took place," McCarthy said. "And most of it was really awesome change."

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Sports

Strasburg Sidelined 12-18 Months

By ZACH MORETTI
Staff Writer

Back on June 8, everyone at my friend Coleman's house had a look of glee on their face. We were all mesmerized by this young 21-year old flamethrower and were captivated by each pitch that left his hand. Smiles and high fives were exchanged after a particularly nasty pitch and cheers rang out after each baffled batter walked back to the dugout with looks of utter confusion on their faces.

The Nationals prized pitching prospect Stephen Strasburg didn't just look like the real deal— it was more than that. The electrifying fastball was his trademark pitch, and on this, the night of his major league debut, it was routinely in the 98-101 MPH range. But Strasburg was far from just a hard thrower; this kid was a true pitcher. He mixed in a 90 MPH change up (yes, change up), a 93-94 MPH sinker, and a devastating, knee-buckling curveball. Four plus-pitches that the phenom could throw for strikes at any time in any count. Strasburg dazzled in his first MLB start, giving up just two runs while striking out 14 batters, including the last seven he faced. This was it, a savior for Washington area baseball.

Just about seven weeks after the memorable debut, Strasburg was scratched from his scheduled start against the Atlanta Braves because he couldn't get loose before the game. Strasburg was later put on the DL with shoulder stiffness, and everyone in D.C. thanked their lucky stars that it wasn't anything more serious than that.

Strasburg returned rather quickly and in just his third start off the DL, he was in the midst of dominating the reigning two-time NL Champion Phillies. It looked as though the rookie was back to form, lighting up the radar gun again while tallying six strikeouts and surrendering just two hits in 4.1 innings. Then Strasburg threw what appeared to be just another ordinary 97 MPH fastball, except this time something wasn't right. Strasburg winced in pain and shook his arm.



Courtesy of fantasyknuckleheads.com

Washington Nationals pitcher Stephen Strasburg lived up to all the hype in his rookie year, going 5-3 while posting a 2.91 ERA. But will he be the same pitcher when he returns from major reconstructive elbow surgery?

Once again all Washington area baseball fans held their breath as their baseball savior walked off the field and was later put on the DL for a second time in his short major league career. As Nationals fans said a collective prayer for the man that Washington outfielder Nyjer Morgan nicknamed "Jesus," Strasburg underwent two different MRI's. Unfortunately, Nationals fans weren't so lucky this time around, as the second of the MRI's revealed that Strasburg had a torn ligament in his pitching elbow that will require the dreaded Tommy John surgery. The surgery has been scheduled for tomorrow and the estimated timetable for recovery from this surgery is 12-18 months, meaning that not only is Strasburg's rookie season finished, but that most likely the next time fans will get a chance to see him pitch again won't come until 2012.

But the big question remains, which Stephen Strasburg will baseball fans see when he does return? Will he be able to recapture the brief dominance he had in his short stint in the majors? Will he be able to dial his fastball up to 100 again or snap those nasty curves the same way he showed this season? While it's true that Tommy John surgery has seen advancements in recent years, and there have been more success stories recently (i.e. Chris Carpenter, Josh Johnson, Tim Hudson), it is still far from an exact science. While we all hope for the best, we just don't know what the future holds for the National's young star.

The thought of Strasburg's unlimited potential going unreached is disheartening to say the least, but while we all hope otherwise it could very well be a reality. No one wants another Kerry Wood or Mark Prior story, but both of those guys were every bit as tantalizing to watch as Strasburg and their careers didn't quite go as planned. So even though it was a sunny day in the mid-80's last Friday in the Nation's Capital, it seemed rather dark and gloomy out to me.

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Sports

UMW Fall Sports Preview

By ZACH MORETTI
Staff Writer

Another school year has begun and with the changing colors of the leaves comes the start of Fall sports at Mary Washington.

The UMW men's soccer team is trying to build on a successful 2009 season where they went 12-7-1 overall, 6-1-1 in conference play, and advanced to the second round of the CAC tournament. The men's team will have to replace two first-team All-CAC selections from a year ago, as both Peter Toohey and Emmett Rutkowski have since graduated. But that doesn't mean that this team lacks talent as they should be a force to be reckoned with in the conference. Sophomore Duke Mensah-Abrampah returns coming off a first-team All-CAC year in his own right as he tied for the team lead with seven goals. The Eagles' Championship. The team returns all but three players from last year's squad, including five first-team All-CAC selections, and a second-team All-CAC player. Junior Amy Olson will once again look to lead the Eagles scoring attack and junior goalie Tina Brehm will continue to anchor the defense on the other end. The CAC looks to continue to be a powerhouse conference as both Stevenson and Salisbury appear very strong once again, but with all the returning talent on the UMW team they should be in contention for another CAC title. The women's season began last night with a home match against Shenandoah University.

Both the men's and women's cross country teams had excellent seasons last year as the men won the CAC title and the women finished second in the conference. However, coming into this season the men's team has the biggest holes to fill, as they lost last year's Men's Runner of the Year Frank DeVar, to graduation. Not only that, but the men's team also bid farewell to All-CAC first-team selection Brian Fulton and a pair of All-CAC second team runners in Matt Cash and Jake Pattyson. The team will need sophomore Scott Plunkett to continue to run well as he is the only All-CAC first team member UMW brings back from last year. Meanwhile, the women's team is happy to return their Runner of the Year in senior Sarah Dawes for a final season. Dawes looks to help take the Lady Eagles to the next level this year and win the CAC Championship. Both teams will continue to be under the supervision of last year's CAC Coach of the Year, Stan Soper, and continue the rich tradition of cross country here at UMW. The cross country season gets underway with the McDaniel College Invitational on Sept 11.



Courtesy of Clint Often

The Eagles' volleyball team went 18-11 in 2009, and their 2010 season broke way last night with a road match against North Carolina Wesleyan College.

The UMW field hockey team had a respectable 2009 campaign. The Eagles went 12-8 overall and 4-2 in conference place to finish third in the CAC regular season standings. The ladies went on a run in the CAC tournament, advancing to the championship game before falling to Salisbury. The team returns two All-CAC first-team selections from last year in seniors Emma Jones and Heidi Sheehan as well as a pair of All-CAC second-team members as senior Nicole Conti and sophomore Florence George are back as well. Senior goalie Chrissy Bowdren also returns for one more year also return a pair of All-CAC second-team players in junior Will Gallop and senior T.L. Tutor as well as the CAC Co-Coach of the Year, Roy Gordon. The conference will once again be very strong as defending CAC champion Salisbury is ranked 20th among all Division III schools in the country and York will return their top three goal-scorers from last season. The men's soccer season kicked off last night with a road bout against Virginia Wesleyan College.

The Eagles women's soccer team had a great year in 2009 as well. After a solid regular season in which the team went 12-5-5 overall and 4-2 in conference play, the women's squad caught fire in the CAC tournament as they upended both Stevenson and Salisbury (the top two teams in the regular season) in succession to win the CAC



Courtesy of Clint Often

The UMW men's soccer team went 12-7-1 a year ago, and now they will try to take the next step and win the CAC championship in 2010.

after posting the third best goals against average in the conference a season ago (1.71). Both Salisbury and York look to be very strong once again, but the talent on the UMW team gives them a chance to compete with both of those schools for CAC supremacy.

The volleyball team at UMW had a strong season in 2009 as they finished second in the CAC regular season standings with an 18-11 record overall and a 7-1 mark in conference play. The Eagles will have a tough task on their hands as they will have to replace last year's CAC Athlete of the Year, Anne Lutkenhaus, who graduated in the Spring. With Lutkenhaus gone someone will need to step up to fill her shoes, and that means more pressure is going to fall on sophomore Laura Gomez, who was last year's CAC Freshman of the Year. Fellow sophomores Karissa Herrick and Ellen Smethurst will also need to step up to help Gomez pile up the kills in order to fill the hole left my Lutkenhaus' departure. However, the team still has a lot of young talent out on the court and that coupled with the guidance from the sidelines from last year's CAC Coach of the Year Dee Conway should make UMW volleyball a CAC contender once again. The volleyball season is slated to begin Sept. 1 with a road game against North Carolina Wesleyan College.



Courtesy of Clint Often

The men's cross country team is ranked 6th in preseason polls for South/Southeast Region, and both the men's and women's cross country teams look formidable once again. Their first race will be held at the McDaniel Invitational on Sept. 11.

Brethauer Excited for UMW Career

By KELLY SCOTT
Staff Writer

After six years as an assistant coach for Columbia University, Abby Brethauer takes the position of head coach for Men's and Women's Varsity Swimming at Mary Washington. Following a surprising leave by former coach Matt Sellman, Brethauer has already begun implementing her ideas and passion for the sport into the program.

"I feel so lucky to walk into a program with such great history," Brethauer said. "I have big goals, but I know a lot comes from talking to the team. If they aren't on board, it doesn't matter."

Having big goals is an understatement for Brethauer, who would love nothing more than to one day beat her Division III alma mater, Kenyon College. Kenyon College is considered one of the top swimming schools in all of NCAA Division III, with their varsity men's swimming team having won 31 consecutive national championships and the women's team having won 23 titles since 1984. Last year the Mary Washington women's team ranked fourth and the men's team ranked 21st, so a good base is set for Brethauer to build upon.



Courtesy of Clint Often

The UMW men's and women's swim teams each won the CAC title a year ago. New swim coach Abby Brethauer looks to continue the run of excellence the sport has experienced at UMW in its 20-year history.

As a former NCAA Division III record holder and three-time team national champion at Kenyon, Brethauer believes her college swimming background will give her an edge.

"Coming from one of the top D III schools, I know how it's done," Brethauer said. "We were no different than any other teams despite the mystique, and once you get past that, it's easier to think about beating them."

> "I feel so lucky to walk into a program with such great history. I have big goals but I know a lot comes from talking to the team. If they aren't on board, it doesn't matter."
>
> *- Abby Brethauer*

The swimmers, each with a few goals of their own, are also excited about Brethauer's hopes for the future of the UMW swimming program.

"She seems awesome," junior Caroline Deluca said. "[She's] so chill and low-key, exactly what we need after a loss. I'm excited for a good season with her."

The Eagles will have quite a transition this year, but through the input and guidance of the seniors, Brethauer plans to keep many traditions and routines the same to make the change as easy as possible.

"I have a couple of sets I want to incorporate– those kind of sets that as soon as you finish, you know they made you better, whether you failed or not," Brethauer said. "You see, I think failure is a good thing. Watch me fail, and then watch how I come back from it."

According to the swimmers, as long as Brethauer is ready to tackle challenges, have fun, and really work with the dynamic of the team, UMW swimming will only thrive in the years to come.

Senior Ashley Green had some words of wisdom for her new coach.

"Keep an open mind about everything. Have fun with it and get to know everyone as best you can," she said.

With everybody on board, the Eagles plan on having even more success in the CAC Conference as they strive to win their 21st and 11th consecutive conference titles for the women and men's teams respectively.